



Mount Royal United Church

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey."

July 9th, 2023

*Indicates Standing

Congregational responses in bold.

We Come Together

Prelude... (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

Greeting

Lighting the Christ Candle

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: Jesus walks to us over the waters of life,

All: calling us by name and walking beside us.

One: When the seas are rough, His voice reaches out,

All: "Come! Do not be afraid."

One: When the seas are calm, His voice reaches out,

All: in joy and fellowship.

One: Delivered from our storms and held in peace,

All: we worship in God's Light and Grace.

*Hymn: "Come to My Heart"

VU# 661

Opening Prayer: (*unison*)

Eternal and Loving God, You reach out for us in times of challenge and in times of joy, offering us glimpses of new possibilities. You rescue us from life's storms and lift us from the raging waters. Be with us now, as we call on Your name. Open for us the fullness of life and gift us with the courage to take that first step, out into the unknown, trusting that we never take it alone. As we worship this day may Your Peace wash over us, in Jesus' loving name we pray. Amen.

Personal Prayer: "O God We Call" X 2 **VU# 411**
(Concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

***Hymn:** "A Little Child the Saviour Came" **VU# 445**

Sacrament of Baptism

Statement of Purpose:

One: Beloved of God, let us celebrate God's gift of grace given to us in baptism,

**All: There is one Body and one Spirit;
we have one hope in Christ.**

One: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, Creator of us all.

**All: Out of the waters of baptism, we rise with new life,
renewed, and one with Christ, members of Christ's
body.**

Questions to the Parents:

Courtney and Tristan, you have brought your daughter, Sadie, for baptism into Christ's church. As we prepare to do so, I ask you the following questions:

Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the Spirit?

If so answer, **I do by the grace of God.**

Will you follow in the way of Jesus Christ, resisting oppression and evil, seeking justice, and witnessing to God's love for all creation?

If so answer, **I will God being my helper.**

Will you share your faith with Sadie, growing with her in faith, hope and love?

If so answer, **I will God being my helper.**

Will you encourage Sadie to seek confirmation, so that being strengthened in faith by the Holy Spirit and nurtured at the Table of our friend Jesus; she may go on to serve God faithfully throughout her life?

If so answer, **I will, God being my helper.**

Commitment of Congregation: (*please stand*)

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations, and to offer God's gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to this child who is about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ and in the fellowship of this community?

If so answer, **We do, by the grace of God.**

Blessing of Water/Prayer of Thanksgiving

Baptism

Presentation of Candle, Certificate and Bible

Blessing:

One: And now let us together offer a blessing for Sadie.

All: May God bless you and keep you, may God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Understanding:

Reader: Sandra

Give us, O God, the will to receive again the stories of scripture, well-worn, well-learned but always full of new and rich meaning. Give us not only ears to hear the story but hearts to understand. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Lessons:

Psalm: 105 VU# 828 Part One (with sung refrain)

Gospel: Matthew 14: 22-33

Response:

One: This is the Word of God,

All: that calls us into the fullness of life.

Sermon "That First Step"

Anthem "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen
Performed by: Pat Clement-Ryan

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn:** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" **VU# 664**

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Prayer: *(unison)*

All that we have is from You, Creator and Creating God. With these gifts, we seek to be like You: creating a world where love is known, sharing the goodness of beauty and kindness, offering our community and world with faith in action. Bless these gifts and may they be a sign of our faith, to take that first step, knowing all along that you walk with us as we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "We Are Pilgrims" **VU# 595**

Benediction: *(unison)*

One: God blesses us with strength for the journey.

All: Our hearts sing God's praises.

One: Christ lifts us up from the raging waters of life.

All: The Spirit guides us, filling us with hope and promise.

One: We go from here in the Peace of Christ,

All: who walks with us as we go. Amen.

Extinguishing of the Christ Light

***Choral Benediction** "I Am Walking a Path of Peace" **MV#221**

Postlude

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***This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
Margaret Ward (Sadie's great grandmother)
by the Donovan family.***

Screen operators for the coming weeks:

July 9 Stephen

Ushers for the coming weeks:

July 9 Sue R. & John **July 16** Annie & John

This Week's Events

Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
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Mount Royal Announcements:

Curious about volunteering? If you have a talent or some time you would like to share with the church, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the office.

Do you wonder why something is in the Bible? How to put faith into action? Do you have an idea to share? There is an "I Wonder" box for those burning questions, bright ideas or mysteries. Write it down and place it in the box.

Food donations: We collect food items for the Alimentaire Peter McKee food bank. Drop off in the bin at the Bessborough door.

Summer closure dates: Mount Royal United Church, including the church office, will be closed from July 31st – Sept. 4th.

Clergy: The Rev. Scott Stuart, BA, MDiv. **Cell:** 506-295-8089

Music Ministry: France Henriques

Custodian: Matt Wilson

Office Administrator: Emily Smith 855-5771

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 2pm

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